SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5227**

				1			9	
3		6					4	1
5	9			3	6			
		5						9
9			7		3			8
2	8		9				6	
			8	2		1	5	
			3				2	4
							3	6

TRICKY **B5227**

						3		
7		8			2	1		
	3				8	9		
		9		5				
		5	9			6	2	3
				6		7		
			4		9			
				1			6	
4		3			7		8	

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

CROSSWORD

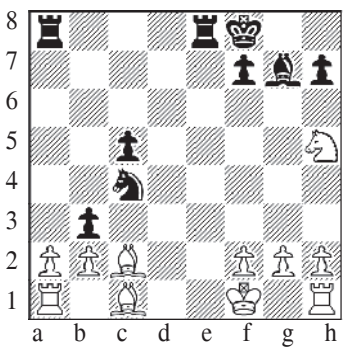
ACROSS

1 Lead an attack or movement (9)
7 Verse (4)
8 Flinch (5)
10 TV's Mr Lynam (3)
11 Ten-pound note, informally (6)
13 Religious building (9)
14 Television commercial (6)
16 Hearing organ (3)
18 South American country (5)
19 Muslim ruler (4)
20 South African city (9)

DOWN

1 Random examination (4,5)
2 Pretend to be (4,2)
3 Prayer ending (4)
4 Body part (3)
5 Permits or tolerates (7)
6 Study role (anag.) (9)
8 Cajole (7)
9 Temporary or provisional (7)
12 Sandwich, informally (6)
15 Change direction suddenly (4)
17 Long white linen vestment (3)

CHESS



BLACK'S BEST MOVE?

HINT: BETTER THAN ... BXC2.

Solution:
1. ... Rxa2! if 2. Rxa2, ... bxa2 (followed by ... a1=Q). If instead, 2. Rb1, ... cxb2! etc. [Hoff-Olsen 1999].

TARGET

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word.
No plurals or verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET

Good 13;

Very good 20;

Excellent 26 (or more).

Solution monday.

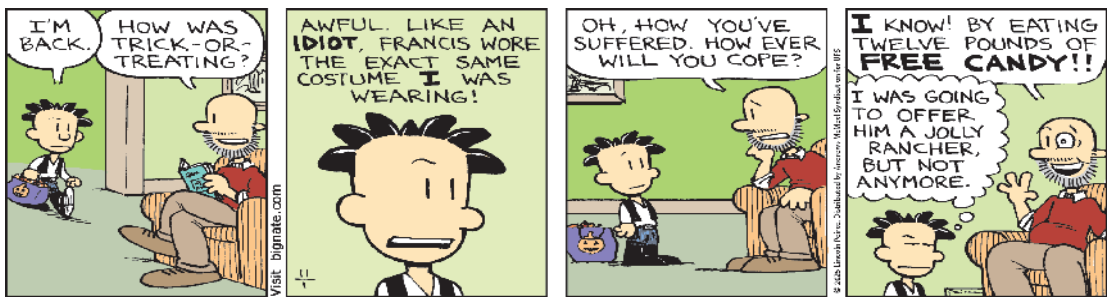
YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

TITULARLY

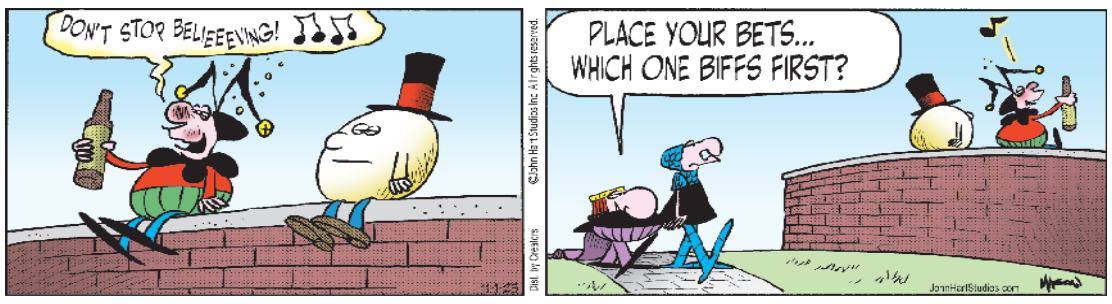
alit arty laity lilt rattly ratty ritual ritually rutty tail tall tally tart tartly tarty taut till tilt titular TITULARLY trail trait tray trial trill truly ultra yurt

THE METRO FUNNIES

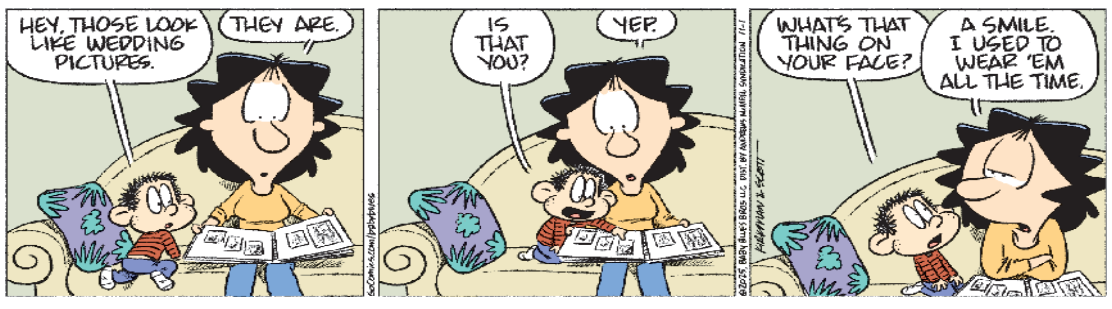
BIG NATE | BY LINCOLN PEIRCE


I'M BACK.
HOW WAS TRICK-OR-TREATING?
AWFUL. LIKE AN IDIOT, FRANCIS WORE THE EXACT SAME COSTUME I WAS WEARING!
OH, HOW YOU'VE SUFFERED. HOW EVER WILL YOU COPE?
I KNOW! BY EATING TWELVE POUNDS OF FREE CANDY!!
I WAS GOING TO OFFER HIM A JOLLY RANCHER, BUT NOT ANYMORE.
Visit bignate.com

THE WIZARD OF ID | BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART


DON'T STOP BELIEEEVING!
PLACE YOUR BETS... WHICH ONE BIFFS FIRST?
©John Hart Studios Inc. All rights reserved.
Dist. by Creators
JohnHartStudios.com

BABY BLUES


HEY, THOSE LOOK LIKE WEDDING PICTURES.
THEY ARE.
IS THAT YOU?
YEP.
WHAT'S THAT THING ON YOUR FACE?
A SMILE. I USED TO WEAR 'EM ALL THE TIME.

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:46pm	05:19pm	05:53pm	05:16pm	05:24pm	05:50pm
Sunrise	06:33am	06:24am	06:38am	06:17am	06:31am	06:42am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow			Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook	Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	18	31	Sunny	67	17	31	Sunny	17	31	Sunny
Hyderabad	19	35	Partly Cloudy	37	19	36	Mostly Sunny	18	35	Sunny
Islamabad	14	29	Sunny	55	14	29	Sunny	15	28	Sunny
Lahore	17	31	Sunny	57	18	31	Sunny	18	31	Sunny
Multan	18	32	Sunny	67	18	32	Sunny	17	31	Sunny
Peshawar	14	29	Sunny	67	15	28	Sunny	15	28	Sunny
Quetta	8	23	Sunny	22	7	23	Sunny	7	21	Sunny

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53, 99212634
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007, 99215008.
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
Telephone complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111-001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066, 32310077
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD

MONAURAL

(MONAURAL: mon-OR-ul: Sound recording involving a single transmission path.)

Average mark 17 words
Time limit 40 minutes

Can you find 33 or more words in MONAURAL?

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

▼ YESTERDAY'S WORD — STARTLE

sale	stat	tetra	late
salt	state	treat	later
sate	steal	tsar	latest
seal	stet	alert	latte
sear	tale	alter	latter
seat	tare	aster	least
slat	tart	rale	lest
slate	taste	rate	earl
stale	taster	rattle	east
staler	teal	real	
star	tear	rest	
stare	teat	lase	
starlet	tesla	laser	
start	test	last	

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. Words must be of four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. For example, if "bake" is used, "baked" or "bakes" are not allowed, but "bake" and "baking" are admissible.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

1 Combative
7 Italic
9 Newborn
10 Crag
12 Baa
13 Gleeful
14 Den
15 Flea
17 Piebald
19 Dionne
20 Bewitches.

DOWN

1 Conceded
2 Over
3 Mow
4 Atonement
5 Tariff
6 Viral
8 Charades
11 Gemini
13 Genie
16 Else
18 Ash.

METRO EVENTS

EXHIBITION

As part of the World Culture Festival, an international art exhibition opens at Ahmed Parvez Art Gallery, at 3pm. Titled *Peace & Pieces*, the show will continue till Nov 4, from 12pm to 8pm.

MUSIC

'Mega Music Concert' as a part of the World Cultural Festival at Jaun Elia Law, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 8pm.

'Rhythm Lounge', a musical night featuring Fahad Naseem, is held at T2F, at 8pm.

'Midday Melodies', a cultural showcase of Iraqi and Arabic music, at the auditorium of Greenwich University, at 12noon.

SUFI RAQS

Greenwich University's Literary & Performing Arts Society presents 'A Sufi Raqs: A Tribute to Maulana Jalal-ud-Din Rumi' at the auditorium of the varsity, at 11:30am.

CHILDREN'S FEST

A children's fair is being organised at Habitt City, Tipu Sultan Road, from 5pm to 11pm.

HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

ARIES | March 21-April 19

*** Today you might be tempted to withdraw from the busyness around you and keep your feelings to yourself. That's fine. We all need some "me time" now and then. Some of you might choose to explore mystical or spiritual disciplines today looking for secret answers. Tonight: Peaceful times.

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

**** Your emotional contact with a friend is important today. In fact, you might feel more protective and supportive than usual to someone. Because of this, you might even feel a bit jealous if a friend pays more attention to someone else. (We've all been there.) Tonight: Warm friendships.

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

*** It's curious, but for some reason, some people today will know personal details about your private life. (Obviously, you are best off if you have nothing to hide, but who doesn't?) Do some damage control if necessary. Meanwhile, you might help someone through your job. Tonight: You are admired.

CANCER | June 21-July 22

**** Today you have a strong urge to get away from it all and do something different. Obviously, travel would be the perfect choice. However, if you can't travel, you can be a tourist in your own city. Do something different! Go someplace you've never been before -- a different restaurant, a new neighborhood, anything. Tonight: Explore!

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

*** Today your emotions are more intense than usual, and what makes things even more unusual is you might attract intense or powerful people to you. (Like, what's with that?) Meanwhile, if you can be surrounded by old and familiar things with old memories from the past, this will please you. Tonight: Check your finances.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

**** Today the Moon is opposite your sign, which turns your attention to your most personal relationships. Tread carefully, because a conflict with someone will be more emotional. Guard against knee-jerk reactions. Make an effort to go along to get along to keep the peace. Tonight: Cooperate.

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

*** Today you might have to put your own emotional or practical considerations second because you have to perform a service for someone else. This doesn't mean you're being a martyr. Au contraire. It's simply what's happening. No biggie. Tonight: Set things in order.

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

**** This is a playful, fun-loving day, and you want to enjoy yourself! You will project yourself more emotionally than usual to others, which means romantic encounters will have greater emotional depth. You also might feel protective or nurturing toward someone. Tonight: Have fun!

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

*** Home and family are your focus today. Ideally, you want to "hide" at home or in a private place so that you can contemplate your navel. Naturally, you want a pleasant, relaxing time, which is why you might grab some guilty pleasures for snacks and drinks. Tonight: Cocoon at home.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

**** Today you have a strong need to express your ideas to someone, which is why you'll seek out someone who understands your concerns. You don't want to waste time in idle chitchat with someone who is disinterested. (Good luck at finding a sympathetic listener.) Tonight: Discussions.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

*** Today it's easy to emotionally identify with your possessions or whatever you value, which, in turn, can lead to a strong attachment to something. "My precious!" You'll feel good if you can be surrounded by familiar objects that have meaning for you from your past. Tonight: Maintain your belongings.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

**** Today the Moon is in your sign -- something that happens for two and a half days every month -- and when it does, your luck is a tiny bit better. This means the universe owes you a favor. Why not test this and go after what you want? Make a small request to see what happens. Trust your good fortune. Tonight: You're strong.

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-so-so; 1-Difficult

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

David versus Goliath

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K 7
♥ J 7 5 2
♦ K Q 9 5 2
♣ K

WEST
♠ 10 5 4 3
♥ K 6
♦ 10 8 7 6
♣ 8 6 3

EAST
♠ 9 8 2
♥ A 8 4 3
♦ J 3
♣ 9 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ Q J 6
♥ Q 10 9
♦ A 4
♣ A Q J 10 7

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	6 NT	

Opening lead -- three of spades.

Bad contracts sometimes produce good drama, as seen in this deal where declarer wound up in six notrump missing the A-K of hearts. There is no way West could have known to lead a heart -- which would have spoiled a good story -- and he instead made the more prosaic lead of a spade.

It might seem that declarer should still have gone down one since the diamonds were divided 4-2 instead of 3-3, but South managed the play exceptionally well and brought the slam home.

He won the spade lead with the ace, cashed the king of clubs, returned to his hand with a spade and played the A-Q-J-10 of clubs, discarding three hearts and a diamond from dummy to produce this position:

North
♠ K
♥ J
♦ K Q 9 5

West
♥ K 6
♦ 10 8 7 6

East
♥ A 8 4 3
♦ J 3

South
♠ J
♥ Q 10 9
♦ A 4

When he next led a spade to the king, West had no choice but to discard a heart, and when declarer then cashed the A-K of diamonds, felling East's jack, the crucial point of the play was reached.

Assessing the situation perfectly, South led the jack of hearts from dummy, sounding the death knell for the defense. East could not afford to rise with the ace, so he ducked. West won with the king and was forced to return a diamond from the 10-8 to dummy's Q-9, whereupon declarer finessed the nine to put the final touch on a very well-played hand.

Tomorrow: The percentage play.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Quick — A5226

5	7	9	2	4	1	6	3	8
4	3	8	9	5	6	2	7	1
1	2	6	8	3	7	9	4	5
2	1	5	4	7	8	3	9	6
7	9	4	3	6	5	1	8	2
8	6	3	1	2	9	4	5	7
6	8	2	7	9	3	5	1	4
9	5	1	6	8	4	7	2	3
3	4	7	5	1	2	8	6	9

Tricky — B5226

5	4	2	6	7	3	1	8	9
9	3	6	1	4	8	2	5	7
1	7	8	5	2	9	6	3	4
8	5	3	2	1	4	9	7	6
4	6	1	8	9	7	3	2	5
2	9	7	3	6	5	4	1	8
3	2	5	4	8	6	7	9	1
7	1	4	9	5	2	8	6	3
6	8	9	7	3	1	5	4	2